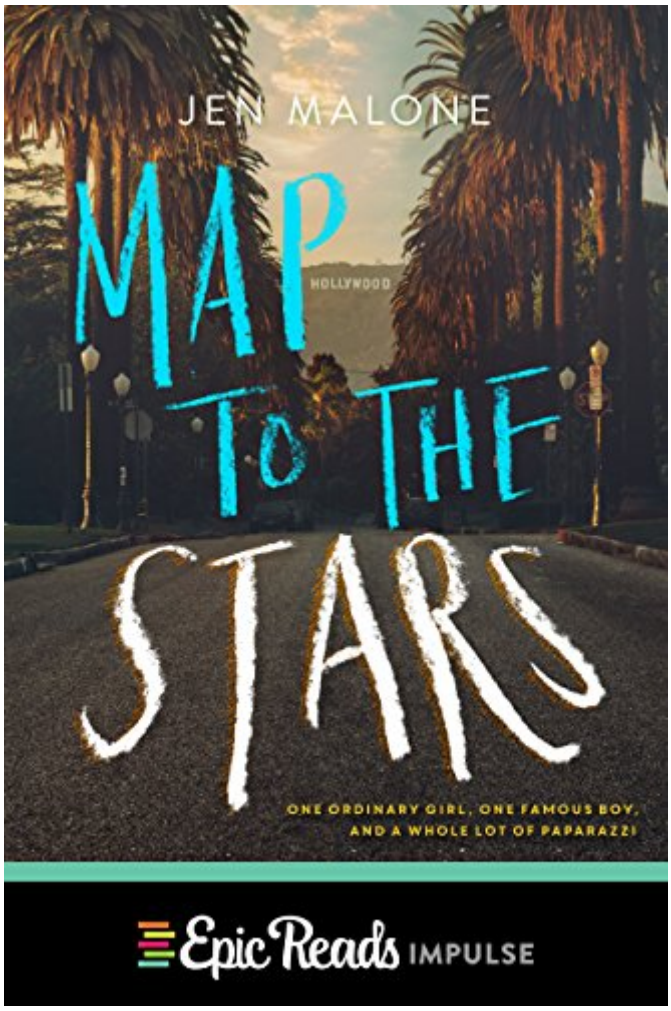
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Map To The Stars



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Synopsis

Can one down-to-earth girl plus a very famous boy and a whole lot of paparazzi ever add up to a perfect Hollywood ending?Seventeen-year-old Annie Shelton isn't sure why her mom thinks moving to Hollywood will allow them to escape the drama of their small-time life in Georgia, but she's along for the ride. When Annie's mom snags a gig as makeup artist to a teen movie idol and finagles a spot for Annie to accompany her on his European promotional tour, Annie's pretty sure she'll be fangirling over architectural sights rather than teen heartthrob Graham Cabot.But then of course she actually meets him. As Graham and Annie fall for each other in the most romantic cities in the world, Annie realizes that this turn of events may not be quite as glamorous as she thought. Instead of red carpets and celebrity couple names, they are navigating a minefield of keeping secrets from Graham's fans, overprotective assistant, stage "momager," and beefy bodyguard. And when the paparazzi make an appearance, Annie has to decide whether their love is worth the harsh glare of the flashbulb.Author Jen Malone draws on her real-life experiences as a movie studio publicist to bring you an insider peek at love, Hollywood-style.Epic Reads Impulse is a digital imprint with new releases each month.

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Customer Reviews

What a fun contemporary YA romance! Yes, the premise of the movie star falling for the nobody narrator is a cliche at this point, but Jen Malone does it so well, and adds such realistic details that it made it such fun to read! The first person POV is both fresh and refreshing as her small town heroine gets her first taste of Hollywood, making a mess of things along the way.Annie Shelton grew up in Georgia, so far from the bright lights of LA that she was never interested in tabloid gossip or crushing on hot movie stars. Her best friend Wynn was the total opposite and a great counterpoint to Annie's hard focus on reality. When Annie and her mom move out to California, its not to pursue dreams, but to escape the reality of her father's deception.Graham Cabot grew up in LA-LA-land, on screen from an early age, and now a genuine movie star at seventeen. Girls throw themselves at him all the time, but the real Graham is actually a little shy and insecure. He admits to Annie that he's never had a real girlfriend, hasn't even had real friends since his elementary school years, before the fame and fortune changed his life.Their budding relationship is cute and sweet, and the one-POV storytelling has the reader riding along with Annie's confusion at Graham's shifting attitudes and emotions. I won't give away any more of the story except to say the ending is totally satisfying and everything worked out the way I wanted it to. This is a standalone read, no series or setup for the next book, which I also found refreshing. Quick, satisfying contemporary YA romance of first love and self discovery that I can totally recommend!

Annie Shelton didn't expect to be in LA the summer before her senior year in high school, but her parents have separated and her hairdresser mom's skills caught the eye of a movie producer. Soon Annie and her mom aren't simply in LA, they're on tour with one of the hottest boy stars around, and Annie's got more to oggle than the European architecture she came to see.Map to the Stars is a fun beach read made even better by the knowledge that Jen Malone worked as a movie studio publicist, so she knows the kind of crazy that happens when movie stars go on tour. Any preteen or teen who has ever fantasized about the hot new star will enjoy reading this fun romance.

I donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t read a lot of YA romance novels.Let me clarify: I read a lot of YA books that have romance in them, and IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve written flirty, romantic sequences in my own books. But I tend to gravitate more towards books that have something else (a contemporary issue

or a fantasy/speculative/magical-realism element) driving the story with the romance being a subplot. Jen MaloneÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Map to the Stars very well may be the first strictly YA romance novel IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve ever read. After all, IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m a forty-something-year-old man and thus probably not the target audience.I picked up a copy for my Kindle on the strength of the humor in the first chapter when it was read by the author at a YA book-reading event I went to. My daughters found the notion of a movie star getting a facial of nightingale poop to be utterly hysterical. And it is. The Hollywood satire peppered throughout the book made me laugh heartily enough to overcome occasional eye-rolls at main character AnnieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s early waffling back and forth regarding her feelings for teen heartthrob Graham Cabot.So hereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s the basic plot: AnnieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s mother has moved her out to L.A. (from a small town in Georgia) to be a stylist to the stars, and they get assigned to Graham CabotÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s worldwide promotional tour for his latest movie. Back home, AnnieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s best friend Wynn is a huge Graham Cabot fangirl, but AnnieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s first run-in with him is a total disaster. She lumps him together with all the other Hollywood phonies, he flirts a little, she flirts back but questions his motives, he turns out to be a really sweet guy. Romance ensues.Okay, so maybe there are some signs of the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“dreadedÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• insta-love going on, but you know what? Big deal! I was a teenager once, and I remember getting tingles if a pretty girl innocently and platonically touched my arm, and I remember suddenly deciding I loved them. And I know girls feel that way tooÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •I had enough female friends that at one point wrote out their names with their crushÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s last name attached. Insta-attractionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •or better yet, insta-interestÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •happens in the real world. LoveÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •all emotionsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •are irrational. TeensÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •well, most peopleÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •behave irrationally at times. And this is a fun story or two teensÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •one thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s normal but skeptical and one thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s airbrushed but sheltered and seeking normalcyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •finding each other and just trying to have fun and do the things teens do.Teens make mistakes, and Annie and Graham make some big ones along the way. Because heÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s in the spotlight, being seen in public with a regular girl could harm his image. Or it could alienate his fan base of tween and teen girls that want to be writing his last name after theirs. ThatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s the main conflict for about the second half of the book, and it was fun watching them try to have a relationship, even though I correctly predicted the consequences theyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢d face.Annie and Graham are likeable enough lead, and the book has a solid supporting cast. Though

WynnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s appearances are limited to emails and video chats, sheÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s well developed and a lot of fun. Bodyguard Roddy, whoÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s in on the coupleÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s ruses, has some nice hidden layers to him. AnnieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s mom is well-balanced between supportive and overprotective, and her producer-friend Joe is an absolute riot whenever he appears.The book is filled with pop culture references, as it should be when partially satirizing Hollywood and online-trending, but they donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t stick to one particular era. Some have stood or will stand the test of time, but some others are contemporary that may not. And some of them were from when I was a teen, including a Grease 2 reference that I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t quite believe both characters would get.ThereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s no surprise that thereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s a HEA ending, as thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s required for the genre, but I found it ironic after all the Hollywood satirizing that the ending was so Hollywood-ized. The only thing missing from the typical Hollywood-made teen romantic comedy ending was someone in the crowd starting a slow clap.Overall, the satire is funny, the characters are fun, their chemistry is believable, and the ending is satisfying. No new ground is broken, but thereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s nothing wrong with comfort food (like the cookies AnnieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Mom bakes), and this is an enjoyable, fun, light read. No map necessary for it to find its FOUR STARS.

Map to the Stars by Jen MalonеI love this book because in the beginning you think you know what's going to happen (poor girl meets famous boy, happy ever after) but the plot twists and turns and keeps you guessing. I like that this book keeps me on my toes and that I have to keep reading to see what will happen next.I was delighted that Annie stayed true to herself and never changed for Graham's world and how even in the end she is still an architecture nerd.

StandaloneAnnie's POVI liked this cute story. Annie found herself living in LA after growing up in rural Georgia. She didn't want to have senior year of high school in another state but was making the most of it. She became her mother's make-up assistant to celebrities. That's how she met Graham, the egotistical heartthrob that yelled at her by assuming she snuck into his room. Then the rest is history...

This was an enjoyable, fun, and quick read. It got me out of a reading slump!

This was a super-fun read which I'm sure YAs - especially those interested in real life details of a teen idol - will really enjoy. The inside scoop makes this legitimately fascinating as it's woven into

the story brilliantly and seemingly without effort. Also, the humor. The banter, the similes, the real-life references were a pleasure to read. This author knows funny and that makes this story GREAT. More, please!

I LOVED this book! It’s fun and funny right from the start and full of great characters. I liked following them on their journey and seeing Hollywood from both sides. But my favorite part was all the traveling through Europe. :)

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